

— IN THE — MEANTIME

The New Normal

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Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, or word usage.

00:00 Speaker 1: Well we are beginning a brand new series today called "In the Meantime" and for the next few weeks, we are going to address this question: What do you do when there's nothing that you can do? What do you do when you find yourself in a set of circumstances and there's no way to change it? There are problems you can solve, but there are some unsolvable problems. There are tensions that you can resolve, but there are some unresolvable tensions. And at some point in your life and in my life and for many of us more than one time during our lives we're gonna find ourselves in a set of circumstances, in a season of life, when it is what it is, and it looks like that's just gonna be the way it is. And there's really no way to change that set of circumstances.

00:41 S1: For many of us it'll be relationally. You'll find yourself in a marriage and it's not a great marriage, but you don't wanna get divorced and he doesn't wanna get divorced and she doesn't wanna get divorced, but nobody wants to change and you look into the future and it's just the way it is. For some of you it's with your kids. They didn't wanna grow up and be what you thought they should grow up and be. Back then you kept telling them in the ninth grade, "These grades count, these grades count, these grades count." And about halfway through their senior year they said, "Oh yeah, these grades count." And it's too late and they're not gonna follow in your footsteps, and their options are just aren't gonna be what you thought they would be, and then they got friends, they got engaged to, and then they married, and it's just, this is what it's gonna be. Now you've got relatives you didn't choose, and an extended family that you're stuck with, and it is what it is, right? Nervous laughter, yeah.

[laughter]

01:26 S1: For some of you it's financially. Your financial dreams aren't coming true, and your financial dreams can't come true. And there's nothing you can do. Professionally it didn't work out, it isn't working out. Professionally, somebody said you did something you aren't so sure you did, and now you've gotten bumped out of an entire industry and you can't go back into that industry. And your dreams aren't coming true. And this is just the way it is. This is permanent. There's no solution. There's no, "In a few minutes, if I wait a few days, if I wait a few years." This is just the future. For some of you it's a health issue. You're not gonna die of whatever it is they said you have, but it's something that... It's debilitating and it's chronic and it's just gonna go on and on and on, and they can treat it, but they can't cure it. This is your new reality. This is your new normal.

02:10 S1: For some of you it's academic. Again, you just aren't gonna be able to be what you hoped you'd be able to be. I don't know what yours is, but you know what? For all us we come to those places that, during this series, we're gonna call "In the meantime." "In the meantime." "In the meantime." This is just the way it is. We're not looking for a solution because you're in a set of